REMARKS

Claims 19-27 are pending and under consideration. Withdrawn claims 1-18 are cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. Further reconsideration is requested based on the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 29 000)

Thomas E. McKiernan Registration No. 37,889

1201 New York Avenue, N.W., 7th Floor

Washington, D.C. 20005 Telephone: (202) 434-1500 Facsimile: (202) 434-1501